



Dr. Donald L. Gerth passed away peacefully at Avow Hospice on July 5, 2016. He was born on July 8, 1929 to Edward and Agnes Gerth in Oshkosh, WI. He attended Oshkosh State Teachers College and then graduated from Marquette Dental School, Milwaukee, WI in 1954. On September 25, 1954 he married Anita Reiter at St. Sebastian's Church in Milwaukee, WI.

That same year he was drafted into the U.S. Air Force for two years active duty at Ramsey Air Force Base in Puerto Rico. He stayed in the Air Force Reserves and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.

He returned to Oshkosh in 1956 to start his private dental practice and retired in 1991.

He was a past President of the Winnebago County Dental Society, Chairman of the Peer Review Committee, President of the former St. Josaphat's School Board and a member of the Church Council.

Faith, family and friends were his priorities in life. He had a wonderful sense of humor and a mischievous smile. Don was a skilled and avid woodworker; most recently he will be remembered for making beautiful comfort crosses for countless people. He also enjoyed golf, cross-country skiing, dancing, reading, playing bridge, traveling, telling a good story, and eating chocolate.

During their retirement, winter months were spent in Destin and Naples, FL until they moved permanently to Naples in 2012.

Don and Anita were blessed with six children, 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren: Mary Gerth Kenyon (deceased), Susan (Dr. Ferdinand) Chiappetta (Angela, Claire, Kathryn, Emily), Donna (Ted) Karwoski (Lauren, Gina, Nick, Alex), Anne Gerth, Sarah (J.T.) McDonald (Kathleen, Meghan), and Douglas (Margaret Carpenter) (Edward, Audrey). He is survived by his loving wife, Anita, of almost 62 years; and brother, Dr. Robert Gerth. His parents, brother Ralph, and his daughter Mary preceded him in death.

A memorial mass will be held at 2 PM on October 7, 2016 at St. William's in Naples, FL.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to: Avow Hospice

<https://avowcares.org/donate-to-avow/> or St. Vincent de Paul

<https://www.svdpusa.org/Donate> -